

Community Environmental Advisory Commission Agenda

Regular Meeting

March 15, 2021 - 05:00 PM

Online Meeting

Members: Hannah Bohn-Jenkins, Max Dalton, Indigo Davitt- Liu, Meron Demissie, Mark Dhennin, Tess Dornfeld, Divine Islam, Mathew Douglas-May, **Sandy Fazeli, Lauren Fleming, Maddie Henderson, LesLee Jackson, Anna Johnson,** Toya Lopez, Barbara Lunde, **Nicholas Minderman, Erin Niehoff, Suzanne Savanick Hansen, Jaqueline Zepeda** (Quorum - 10) Those in bold were in attendance.

Staff: Kim W. Havey, Bjorn Olson

Guests: Sean Gosiewski

Call to Order

Erin Niehoff called the meeting to order and asked Kim to call roll to verify the presence of a quorum. Community members will have an opportunity to introduce themselves after roll is made. Kim said a link has been dropped into the chat with the agenda and meeting minutes. Roll was called.

1. Roll Call.

After roll, quorum was established with 13 members. Barbara Lunde joined later in the meeting. Erin mentioned that the meeting is being staffed by Kim and Angela at the City's Sustainability division. Gave other staff and community members an opportunity to unmute and introduce themselves.

2. Adoption of the agenda.

The first two items of business is the adoption of our agenda for tonight's meeting followed by acceptance of minutes from the January 25th meeting.

Those items can combine those together if we have the proper motions.

Motion was made by Anna Johnson and seconded by Max Dalton for adoption of both the agenda and January 25, 2022 minutes. The motion passed and minutes and agenda are accepted.

Acceptance of minutes

[January 25, 2022 Community Environmental Advisory Commission](#)

Consent

Location: Online Meeting, Dial-In Number: 612-276-6670 Phone Conference ID: 631 784 456#

Erin read the land acknowledgement.

Land Acknowledgement: As we meet here today, we are reminded that Minneapolis is situated on the homelands of the Dakota people. An area that is steeped in rich Indigenous history, it is home to Indigenous people from more than 30 different nations. As a City, we have a responsibility to care for the land on which we live and work and all its natural surroundings. This stewardship is an integral part

of our involvement in this commission, and we honor it as we begin our meeting. We now open this space to discuss ways in which we can support Indigenous people in our community.

The Dakota Spirit Walk was mentioned, also Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women event, and an action at the state Capitol, Angela asked about events for Black History month. Erin said she is a state employee who set up a 1 1/2 hour long events every week to hear from Black justices within the state of Minnesota, she had over 1200 participants, event was only for state employees.

Erin asked Kim if he knew of any events being put on by the City, he knew not. He mentioned the history museum at Sabathani. A few more Black History Month events were mentioned by other members. Some Black history events mentioned in addition to the Sabathani History Museum in St. Paul, KARE-11, Spokesman Recorder, Midtown Global Market, African American Museum in North Minneapolis, also the Loft.

Elections

2022 Chair and vice chair discussion and nominations. Candidates will have 3 minutes to provide remarks about why they would like to be Chair/Vice-Chair.

Erin said the first order of business is the election, so currently the nominations are Anna Johnson for Chair, Barbara Lunde and Sandy Fazeli for Vice-Chair, she asked if there were any other nominations for these positions.

Hearing no other nominations. Nominations were closed. Anna Johnson gave a speech on why she should be Chair. Erin asked Sandy to speak to the group on why she should be vice-chair. Barbara was not present at the time of presentations. Anna, being uncontested, was voted in as Chair. Kim gave directions for the vote for Barbara and Sandy. Commission members elected Sandy. Barbara was not present to vote for herself.

After elections, the meeting was turned over to Anna Johnson to chair the meeting.

Kim said thank you to Erin for the last four years of leading CEAC, she has done an incredible amount of commitment and time and thoughtfulness and the drafting and re-drafting of letters and facilitating this and you've done a really great job. Thank you for your work as Chair.

Presentations:

Minneapolis Food Action Plan – Patty Bowler, Minneapolis Health Department

Invite Hennepin County to talk about food waste at the future meeting.

Justice and Equity

Diets and Demand

Agricultural Food Production

Processing Food – Wholesale, Retail, Context and Food Distribution

Wasted Food and Food Scraps

The Seven Principles that guide the Program:

Inclusion

Leadership and Decision Making
Social Determinants of Health – Housing and Education, Adequate Income
Concept of Recognition – Reparations and Respect
Concept of Food Access
How Food is Produced and Processed – Environmentally Friendly
Food Skills

All Sectors are Interdependent and woven into pathways. Pathways mean big buckets of recommendations. Received lots of feedback from community members that helped create the pathways. Been getting a lot of input as everything rolls out. They are increasing urban agriculture connecting local producers and farmers with local markets. Increasing the consumption of health with plant-based diet, decrease wasted food and improving the management of food scraps and continuing to study our food system to create innovative solutions to advance planned outcomes.

Angela asked a question about who they are working with in the Green Zones. Patty said they were working with Appetite for Change, CLUES, Audubon Neighborhood Association.

Leslee Jackson asked is there a plan to have a City Compost like Chicago creating this for community gardens to be able to get soil? Chicago is doing very good in that area, she was wondering if the Food Council was considering doing something like this. Patty said she didn't have sufficient knowledge to answer the question. Kim said he does know Compost is available for the community.

Patty said she listed the survey in the chat and for everyone to take the survey and share it. All recommendations are listed in the Power Point presentation. All are ideas at this point, they are in the process of prioritizing the list. They haven't gotten to the implementation nor prioritization stage yet. She encouraged everyone to take the survey. Leslee, asked do they calculate how much food is at the stores and how much is thrown out? Is there a management plan for that? Patty said that they aren't measuring food waste, but Hennepin County has a food waste initiative. She asked Kim to invite them in to talk about food waste because there's a lot of interest in the topic.

Climate Action and Equity Plan Kick Off – Alicia Belton, Urban Design Perspectives

Alicia thanked everyone and spoke about the plan and how it was assembled. Wants to meet with their team weekly and spread out as the schedule is developed. Will be forming a steering committee will help inform their process of planning. Will be reaching out the community organizations, there are some targets that they will come up with specific steps. Their role is to listen and advise. Have done community engagement work with the City, higher education venues, they feel this will help put the plan together. Will be looking at what other cities have done, we're excited to get started. Asked for questions, doesn't have a whole lot to share. Want to make sure all voices are heard that are content rich and applicable to what they are doing with the City.

Anna asked for any questions. Do you have a sense of timeline and process? They want to be finished in December, so they can have a draft for committee review. If anything needs to be

reshaped or reframed. Want to meet with the Steering Committee and Kim's team to make sure they are identifying specific groups in the community and check out the layout what the plan is and gather information and come back to the table to get a draft in front of constituents. The draft work plan is scheduled to be complete within the next few weeks.

Recommendations:

Remove barriers. Develop a guiding list of principles for engagement

Meeting minutes have a lot of information already in the notes.

Comp Plan 2040 CEPD did extensive outreach.

Get list of EJ groups from Kelly and Angela

MN 350 green new deal ward representatives could be a good connectors for the CAEP.

Discussion:

Hennepin Avenue reconstruction:

Erin said to open it up to understand where people are. Do we want to do a presentation to submit a letter or do we just want to submit a letter or third option to do nothing? Someone also said they don't need to do a presentation to get support. Sandy asked if there has been any opposition? The debate has been about how to use the right of way space that exist? Around off street parking versus bike space, aligns largely with what CEAC has recommended. Wanted to know what CEAC was thinking when they wrote the letter. The proposed option is bike lane, transportation lane and the single through lane for all other traffic at the expense of parking.

Recommendation is to do the letter, take the time with Matthew to do a draft and circulate it via email to have discussion and approval of it. Nick suggested a walkthrough of the letter would be good so we can gather people's thoughts or recruit ideas to add to the letter.

[Jamboard Activity](#) on CEAC 2022 ideas and activities

While everyone was using the jamboard, updates and announcements were done. Kim introduced Angela and asked her to introduce herself and why she is here. Kim announced there are matching green grants available right now. Solar assistance is available now, applications are open. Solar United Neighbors and Midwest Renewable Energy Association. Looking to allocate some real money to climate change that is making its way to the House side. Want to have all new buildings fall under the same building code. All boards and commissions are still meeting virtually. 2020 Sustainability review was posted to the chat to provide an update on what they are working on. Shooting for March 21st date to bring this before the council.

Old Business

Updates and Announcements from Commissioners and staff

- Sustainability welcomes Angela Williams to our team as a Vista staff person for the next year. She will be working with Green Zones on planning a Green Zone Summit and providing communications and program support to the whole sustainability team
- All City boards and commissions will continue to meet virtually until further notice
- A two-page Sustainability 2021 Year in Review provides a few highlights of the accomplishments of the sustainability Division in 2021
- Minneapolis is collaborating with over 20 MN cities is pursuing [Better Buildings for MN](#), which is state legislation to update the building code so that it will provide a pathway to net zero energy for all buildings 50,000 SF and larger by 2036
- Applications are being taken now for the [Green Cost Share program](#)

Possible Future CEAC Meeting Topics:

- Climate Action and Equity Plan Steering Committee and Task Force opportunities
- Decarbonizing landscape maintenance equipment
- Bikes, Scooters and Mobility Hubs: What's ahead for 2022? – Looking at a later CEAC meeting after final negotiations for the bikes and scooters contract is complete.
- Carbon Free Zones and fossil gas free development
- Sustainable building policies for City Financed economic development
- How to reduce plastic in the community?
- How do we reduce emissions from the HERC?
- Hennepin Ave Redesign

Adjournment

Notice:

A portion of this meeting may be closed to the public pursuant to MN Statutes Section 13D.03 or 13D.05.

Next Community Environmental Advisory Commission meeting: March 15, 2022 from 5-7 PM

For reasonable accommodations or alternative formats please contact the City Coordinator's Office at 612-673-2563 or e-mail sustainability@minneapolismn.gov. People who are deaf or hard of hearing can use a relay service to call 311 at 612-673-3000. TTY users call 612-263-6850. Para asistencia 612-673-2700 - Rau kev pab 612-673-2800 - Hadio aad Caawimaad u baahantahay 612-673-3500.